

FORT McCOY, BUILDING T-1046 (STANDARD WARD)
(Camp McCoy, Building T-1046 (Standard Ward))
Fort McCoy
Sparta vicinity
Monroe County
Wisconsin

HABS NO WI-308-I

HABS
WIS,
41-SPAR.V,
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PHOTOGRAPHS AND
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FORT MCCOY, BUILDING T-1046 (STANDARD WARD)
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Location: Building T-1046 is located approximately 250' northeast of South V Street and 50' southeast of South Tenth Avenue, in Block 10 of the cantonment of the Main Post of Fort McCoy, in Monroe County, Wisconsin.¹

USGS Quadrangle, Alderwood Lake, Wisconsin: 7.5 minute series 1983 (photorevised from 1978) UTM Coordinates: Zone 15: 4876200 N 686660 E.

Present Owner: Department of the Army.

Original Use: Standard 33-bed Hospital Ward (Type W-1).

Present Use: Unused - does not appear to have reserve status.

Significance: Building T-1046 is significant as a relatively unmodified representative of a 33-bed hospital ward. It represents one of thirty Type W-1 buildings constructed at Fort McCoy in 1942.² Of these, eight were modified by the addition of kitchens in 1957 and eleven were rehabilitated into USAR School billets at a latter date.³

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: Construction of Building T-1046 probably began in the fall of 1942. There is a minor discrepancy between the available data for the date of building completion. Notations on the "As Built" drawing 700-462 state that the building was completed by October 19, 1942.⁴ However, the Real Property Records on file in Buildings 2160 and 2145 note the building as completed on October 3, 1942.⁵ "As Builts" were probably prepared by the contractor and the R.P.R. by the Army, perhaps upon acceptance from the contractor.
2. Architect: Col. Hugh J. Casey in the Engineering Branch of the Construction Division, Quartermaster Corps, supervised the 1941 revision of the 700 series standardized drawings.⁶
3. Original and subsequent owners: The site for the expanded Camp McCoy military reservation was condemned and purchased by the War Department in the spring of 1942.⁷ The owner from 1942-47 was the War Department. Since 1947, the U.S. Department of the Army, the successor to the War Department, has held title.

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4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Building T-1046 was part of construction area A, which was built by J. P. Cullen & Sons of Janesville, WI. Bids for the construction of the cantonment were let in February 1942 and contracts were awarded in late March. The contracts for the seven principal construction areas were fixed-price in nature. The War Department purchased the lumber used in Building T-1046 and the rest of the cantonment in the spring of 1942. The remaining materials used in construction were apparently purchased by subcontractors in the Wisconsin area.⁸
5. Original Plans and Construction: Building T-1046 was built from 700 series plan number 700-462 and associated plan numbers 700-225, 700-226, 700-231, 700-244, 700-245, 700-246, 700-262.1, 700-1162, 800-194, 800-197, and 800-199. Drawing 700-247 was listed in the original Construction Specification but was not found with the other drawings.⁹ The original plans used to construct the thirty W-1 hospital wards are currently on file in "As Built" envelope #105 in Building T-2111. The original cost of the building was \$22,132.¹⁰ Alterations to the original building plan at the time of construction are noted in red on the "As Built" plan. These include the use of 1-3/8" thick, double-panel glazed doors at the rear, front and porch entrances, asphalt roofing shingles, cement asbestos siding shingles, the omission of knee braces from the solarium partition, utility room, lavatory and toilet, the installation of a prefabricated shower. The wall board and wainscot were omitted from the covered walks, seventeen wall footings were changed to 2'-0" x 2'-0" x 1'-0", and the concrete piers were changed from a specified 10" to 12" diameters. Additionally the low and high pressure reducing valves connecting the central heating system to the ward were relocated from the covered walkway to the interior walls in the Ward office and isolation ward.¹¹
6. Alterations and additions: On the exterior, the grayish white cement asbestos siding has been replaced in a few spots at low elevations with white siding of similar size and texture. The structure has been repainted on three separate occasions in 1951, 1959 and 1964. Additionally in 1964 the building was re-roofed with red asphalt shingles. A walkway was added to the building in 1968 at a cost of \$4,000.¹²

B. Historical Context:

The construction of Building T-1046 was part of a massive, nation-wide mobilization program designed to build cantonments to house and train the expanded World War II Army. The 800 series, and the 700 series that preceded it, was a comprehensive set of drawings which could be used interchangeably in creating the various building types. Through the construction of temporary wood-frame buildings such as Building T-1046, the 1939 housing capacity of 200,000 was increased to 6,000,000 by the close of the mobilization program in the fall of 1944. In addition, war mobilization buildings are significant for their construction and technological innovation. Techniques such as the standardization of plans, prefabrication of units and assembly-line approach to construction were largely developed in the construction of these mobilization structures.

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Building T-1046 was one of thirty 33-bed hospital wards constructed in the hospital area of the "New Camp McCoy," a mobilization cantonment built by the War Department between the entrance of the United States into World War II in late 1941 and early 1943.¹³ The 1941-43 cantonments were constructed to house and serve as training bases for approximately 525,000 men drafted for Army service after the declaration of war.¹⁴ Two newly organized Army Divisions occupied Camp McCoy during their training. The Second Army Division arrived soon after the completion of construction in the fall of 1942 and remained until November 1943, leaving for action in the Italian Campaign. The 76th Division then took over, remaining until December 1944, when they departed for service in the Battle of the Bulge and the subsequent occupation of Germany. Engineer, railhead, field artillery, tank destroyer, ordnance, and maintenance troops were trained at Camp McCoy concurrently with the Second and 76th Divisions.¹⁵ In 1944, Camp McCoy also became a personnel center for the Army, receiving and redirecting soldiers for new assignments. The following year the personnel center began also to discharge veterans as the war came to a close. The personnel center closed in 1946, and most other functions of the camp halted a year later.¹⁶

After three years of relative inactivity, Camp McCoy was reactivated by the Defense Department for training of regular, reserve, and National Guard Units in the Fifth Army Area for service in the Korean War. Since 1953 the camp has become a center for training reserve units of the Army and National Guard Regiments of the Midwest Region.¹⁷

No data was available on occupants of Building T-1046 prior to 1968 when it was assigned to the 452th General Hospital.¹⁸

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: Building T-1046 is a well preserved, relatively unmodified example of the typical 700 series 33-bed hospital ward. On the basis of visual inspection and historical documentation, Building T-1046 appears to be the best preserved of the remaining, unaltered eleven W-1 wards at Fort McCoy.
2. Condition of Fabric: The general condition of Building T-1046 is good. Deterioration areas noted in the structure's exterior include areas where the original cement asbestos siding has fallen off and been replaced, some deterioration of the wooden foundation skirting, and peeling paint. Wood rot was noted along the eaves on the southwest wall. No significant deterioration was noted in the structure's interior.

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B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: Building T-1046 is rectangular in shape and measures approximately 25'-4" in width and 150'-6" in length. The building is one story and the height from grade to the roof ridge is approximately 14'.¹⁹
2. Foundations: The foundation at building T-1046 consists of four rows of piers on concrete footings containing a total of sixty-four 12" concrete piers resting on 2'-0" x 2'-0" square x 1'-0" thick concrete footings. There is no cellar excavation. The crawl space below the ward is screened with wooden skirting composed of vertical boards affixed to the foundation girders and to sills fitted into slots in the exterior piers.
3. Walls: The exterior walls of Building T-1046 consist of three layers: wooden sheathing, black construction paper, and cement asbestos siding measuring 11" x 24", the standard size used throughout the cantonment.
4. Structural System, framing: The structure is a light wood frame.
5. Porches stoops: There is screened porch on the west wall. The porch has a concrete step entrance and painted hardwood floors.
6. Chimneys: Building T-1046 and other buildings in the block were connected to a central heating plant. There are no chimneys, heater rooms or furnaces directly connected to the building. There are three 16" diameter metal ventilators on the roof of the structure, one to the center, the others at intervals on either side.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and Doors: Double doors, with four lights at the top and two recessed panels at the bottom, were used at the rear, front, and porch entrances. No notes on door specifications were available in the "As Built" files in Building 2111. Standard screen doors appear on the outside of all three building entrances. A screen door covers the entry into the screened porch.
 - b. Windows: The south wall has six, six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows opening to the solarium. The east and west walls have twenty, six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows. The north wall has four, eight-over-eight-light double-hung sash windows. All windows have a simple architrave surround, and plain wood-framed screens.

C. Description of the Interior:

1. Floor Plans:
 - a. Basement: There is no basement under Building T-1046. The crawl

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space is at grade.

- b. Main Floor: Building T-1046, as constructed in 1942, had total square footage of 3,813. There are thirteen rooms in the building; the covered porch, the main ward, two small one-man wards, a ward office, a serving kitchen, a closet, linen room, utility room, lavatory, toilet, solarium, and the main corridor. The main ward measures 95'-6" x 25'-4". Ceilings are approximately 9'-10-1/2" in height.
 - c. Attic: The attic above the main floor contains standard mobilization trusses with knee braces at the perimeter wall.
- 2. Stairways: There are no interior or exterior stairways.
 - 3. Flooring: The structure has hardwood floors in all rooms except the toilets, lavatory and serving kitchen rooms which have concrete flooring.
 - 4. Wall and Ceiling Finishes: The walls and ceiling are painted. The top of the walls and ceiling is fiber board and the lower half of the wall is surfaced nail board.
 - 5. Openings: The original five-panel recessed doors are present in all rooms.
 - 6. Decorative Trim: Horizontal wood wainscoting covers all interior walls of the main ward, corridors and lavatories. All doorways and moldings in the structure are made of simple square trim.
 - 7. Hardware: The original building equipment report for Building T-1046 lists the following hardware: six toilets, two steel sinks, eleven lavatories, one drinking fountain, one enamel sink, one shower, six paper holders, five mirrors, one ladder, and four soap dishes.²⁰ The original galvanized metal knobs and rim locks survive on all three of the exterior and interior doors. The original hardware on all of the double-hung sash windows also remains.
 - 8. Mechanical Equipment:
 - a. Heating: There are no chimneys, heater rooms or furnaces directly connected to the building. The building was connected to a central heat facility. Room heat was provided via steam radiators located at the perimeter of the rooms beneath the windows.
 - c. Ventilation: There are nine staggered 8" x 10" screen openings in the ceiling of the main ward and one in the solarium.

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- d. Lighting: The original 60- and 100-watt fixtures with porcelain enameled bowls remain.
 - e. Plumbing: The original plumbing in the toilets and lavatories has been retained and remains in good condition.
9. Original Furnishings: None noted. The beds, office and clinical furniture have been removed. However, racks constructed over each bed for personnel effects and bedding have been retained.
- D. Site:
- 1. General Setting and orientation: Building T-1046, the street layout and other buildings of Block 10 (Hospital Area) are arranged on a rectangular pattern running generally southwest to northeast along its main axis. The building is central in a set of five similar structures. Building T-1046 is located approximately 250' northeast of South V Street and 50' southeast of South Tenth Avenue.²¹ The long axes of the building parallel South V Street and the short axis parallels South Tenth Avenue. A covered walkway connects all five structures along the northwest edge of the block. Block 10 was located to the east of the main cantonment in such a manner as to be shielded from vehicle traffic noise and artillery and small arms firing areas.
 - 2. Historical Landscape Design: Two native trees have been planted to the east side. The remainder of the building lot is planted in grass. A small two-track gravel service drive is located to the immediate north.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- A. Architectural Drawings: Building T-1046 was built from 700 series plan number 700-462, and associated plan numbers 700-225, 700-226, 700-231, 700-244, 700-245, 700-246, 700-262.1, 700-1162, 800-194, 800-197, and 800-199. Drawing 700-247 was listed in the original Construction Specification but was not found with the other drawings. The original plans used to construct the thirty W-1 hospital wards are currently on file in "As Built" envelope #105 in Building T-2111.
- B. Bibliography:
 - 1. Primary and unpublished sources:
 - a. Standard Mobilization Drawings 700 and 800 Series Plan number 700-462*, 700-225, 700-226, 700-231, 700-244, 700-245, 700-246, 700-462.1*, 700-1162, 800-194, 800-197, and 800-199.
(* These drawings were modified at Ft. McCoy).

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- b. Office of the Area Engineer, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Camp McCoy Project -- General Layout," Plan No. 6150-L, May 23, 1942.
 - c. Record Drawing file 0105 in As Built Files, Building T-2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
 - d. Real Property Record. Building and Structures, Building T-2145, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
2. Secondary and Published sources:

Basic Information Map, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, General Site Map North Fort Sheet 3a of 13. Office of the Facilities Engineer, Bldg T-2160. Original January -11-1965; Revision #11 June-4-1976.

Buildings and Structures Descriptions, from box marked "Save Historical"; Building T-2145 (Meatlocker), Fort McCoy, Original typed entries, undated.

"Historical Summary," typescript summary of the history of camp McCoy prepared by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy n.d., ca. 1985, p. 6.

Lenore Fine and Jesse A. Remington, *The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States*. [volume in the series, *United States Army in World War II: The Technical Services*] Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, United States Army.

Office of the Area Engineer, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Camp McCoy Project--General Layout," Plan No. 6150-1-L, May 23, 1942. Original blueline print in map file cabinet Building T-2145 "Meatlocker."

Post Engineer Office Historical Data, Document dated 15 January 1946, on file Building T-2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

Real property records file; Building T-2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Also see original Real Property Record cards filebox in Building T-2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

"To Condemn 9600 acres for McCoy," *Sparta Herald*, February 9, 1942, p. 1.

Unmarked wooden File Box, Building T-2145, "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. File contains 4x5 cards listing buildings and assignees.

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C. Likely Sources Not Investigated:

1. Documentary: Information of the firm of J. P. Cullen & Sons charged with the construction of Building T-1046 maybe available. Additional data may be available in the National Archives on Hugh J. Casey and the other architects who produced and revised the 700 series Standard Drawings.
2. Oral History: Interviews could be conducted with personnel involved in the construction of the hospital area at Fort McCoy and the military archives could be searched for personnel stationed at or treated at the hospital during WWII.

D. Supplemental Materials:

1. The original "As Built" drawings for Building T-1046 are filed in Building T-2111, at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. They were too fragile to copy and as such could not be included with the documentation. Standard plans for the 700 series 33-bed ward are available from the National Archives.

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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The documentation of Fort McCoy was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) of the National Park Service, Robert J. Kapsch, chief, during the summer of 1988. The project was sponsored by the United States Army, Environmental Office, Colonel Ronald G. Kelsey, chief, with the assistance of Constance W. Ramirez, Historic Preservation Officer for the U.S. Army. Local sponsorship was provided at Fort McCoy by the base Commander, Colonel Sorensen, and by Al Balliett and Marvin Westenburg of the Environmental Division; John Calvert, Engineering Planning and Services Division; and Robert Wells, Real Property. The project was managed through the HABS/HAER WASO office by John A. Burns, architect, and project leader and Catherine Crawford, HABS historian. The documentation was undertaken at the HABS/HAER field office at Fort McCoy by James Glass, HABS/HAER, and by Keith Landreth, U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (USACERL), Champaign, Illinois. Large-format photography, by Martin Stupich.

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NOTES:

1. Basic Information Map, Fort McCoy Wisconsin, General Site Map North Fort Sheet 3a of 13. Office of the Facilities Engineer, Bldg 2160. Original January -11-1965; Revision #11 June-4-1976.
2. Buildings and Structures Descriptions, from box marked "Save Historical"; Building 2145 (Meatlocker), Fort McCoy, Original typed entries, undated.
3. "As Built" file 0 105, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
4. Completion label appended to Record Drawing d 700-462. "As Built" envelope 0105, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. All thirty (30) W-1 structures at Fort McCoy were built according to this record plan.
5. Real property records file; Building 2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Also see original Real Property Record cards filebox in Building 2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
6. Lenore Fine and Jesse A. Remington, *The Corps of Engineers: Construction in the United States*. [volume in the series, *United States Army in World War II: The Technical Services*] (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief of Military History, United States Army), p. 349.
7. "To Condemn 9600 acres for McCoy," *Sparta Herald*, February 9, 1942, p.1, c. 8.
8. Office of the Area Engineer, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. "Camp McCoy Project-General Layout," Plan No. 6150-1-L, May 23, 1942. Original blue-line print in map file cabinet building 2145 "Meatlocker."
9. "As Built" file #105, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
10. Real Property Records, Building 2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
11. "As Built" file #105, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
12. Real Property Records, Building 2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Also see Real Property Records box, building 2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
13. Post Engineer Office Historical Data, Document dated 15 January 1946, on file Building 2145 "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
14. Perry Busch and Diane Wasch, "The Historical Context of World War II Mobilization Construction." Unpublished paper. Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. 1988, pp. 42;47
15. Post Engineer Office Historical Data, Document dated 15, January 1946, on file Building 2145 "Meatlocker", Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.
16. Ibid.
17. "Historical Summary," typescript summary of the history of Camp McCoy prepared by the Public Affairs Office, Fort McCoy n.d., ca. 1985, p. 6.
18. Unmarked wooden File Box, building 2145, "Meatlocker," Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. File contains 4 x 5 cards listing buildings and assignees.

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19. Real Property Records, Building 2160, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

20. "As Built" file #105, Building 2111, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

21. Basic Information map, Fort McCoy Wisconsin, General Site Map North Fort Sheet 3a of 13. Office of the Facilities Engineer, Bldg 2160. Original January -11-1965; Revision #11 June-4-1976.